

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-45 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 23, 38 and 40 are independent. By this Amendment, claims 1-5, 7, 12-17, 20-27, 29-32 and 35-40 are amended. No new matter has been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

In paragraph four (4) of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 6, 8-10, 16, 23, 24, 31, 38 and 39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mogi (U.S. 6,157,394).

Applicants assume that the Examiner meant U.S. Patent No. 6,115,064 to “Mogi”, not U.S. Patent 6,157,394 to Anderson for which the Examiner cites in rejecting other claims (i.e., claims 40-44).

Mogi discloses a video camera having a zooming lens and a focus lens. A lens resetting operation is performed to measure the zooming-lens driving speed when the power source is turned on. See, for example, col. 8, lines 17-42 of Mogi.

Claims 1, 23 and 38 have been amended for further clarification. Those claims recite a second system controller that extends a lens barrel from a collapsed position, in parallel with an operation where a drive signal is supplied to a first system controller after a power source is turned on.

In contrast, the Mogi reference does not disclose or suggest an operation where a lens barrel is extendible from a collapsed position.

Accordingly, each of independent claims 1, 23 and 38 as amended is neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of Mogi for at least the reasons discussed above.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 23 and 38 under §102(e) is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

In paragraph ten (10) of the Office Action, claims 40-44 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,157,394 to Anderson (“Anderson”).

Claim 40 has been amended to recite “mechanical drive means for extending a lens barrel having a lens from a collapsed position;” In contrast, the Anderson reference does not disclose or suggest an operation where a lens barrel is extendible from a collapsed position. Accordingly, independent claim 40 as amended is not rendered obvious in view of Anderson for at least this reason.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 40 under §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Applicants have not individually addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because the independent claims from which they respectively depend are in condition for allowance as set forth above. Applicants, however, reserve the right to address such rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary.

Applicants respectfully assert that the application as amended is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

AUTHORIZATION

In the event that an extension of time is required, or may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4578. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
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